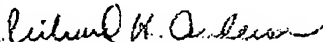


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Dated: February 27, 2006

Signature:

  
(Richard H. Anderson)

Docket No.: 28570/10289  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Jerald W. Darlington, Jr. et al.

Application No.: 10/666,315

Confirmation No.: 7910

Filed: September 18, 2003

Art Unit: 1714

For: MOISTURE-IMPERVIOUS WATER-  
SWELLABLE CLAY-CONTAINING  
"WATER-STOP" COMPOSITION

Examiner: K. A. Sanders

**RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated September 27, 2005, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 2 of this paper.